

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claim as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision apparatus that provides related information on contents including reference data arranged in time series, the apparatus comprising:

related information receiving means that receives related information on contents from one or more user devices, the related information including an identification of the contents, user remarks to the contents, and a reference time position of the user remarks relating to the contents;

related information storing means that stores the received related information;

reference information receiving means that receives reference information from the one or more user devices, the reference information including a keyword specifying contents to be referred to by the user remarks to the contents, and specifying a time reference position in the contents;

reference information storing means that stores the received reference information;

information delivering means that searches the related information storing means for matching related information that matches at least one of the keyword or the time reference position of the reference information from the reference information receiving means, and transmits the matching related information for displaying on a display at a specific user device from among said one or more user devices, and that delivers at least one of the matching related information or the stored reference information to the one or more user devices;

means that specifies an installation region of a terminal apparatus of the one or more user devices to be a delivery destination according to the information delivering means, the

installation region indicating a geographic region where the terminal apparatus of the one or more user devices is installed; and

information changing means that changes contents of related information and/or reference information, which should be delivered, according to the installation region, wherein the content referred to in the matching related information was already distributed or will be distributed to the one or more user devices.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the contents refer to a broadcast program, and

the reference information includes information specifying a broadcasting station, which broadcasts or has broadcasted a program, and information specifying a date and time when a reference part in a program is broadcasted or has been broadcasted.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the reference information specifies a broadcasting station, which broadcasts or has broadcasted a program, using a channel number.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the reference information further includes information for specifying a broadcast starting date and time of the program and information for specifying a broadcast end time of a program or a length of the program.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information delivering means includes identification information of a site handling information resources related to contents in the reference information and delivers the identification information.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information delivering means includes information for correcting deviation of a clock in a terminal apparatus to be a delivery destination in the reference information and delivers the information.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information delivering means includes a characteristic amount of contents at a reference position in the contents in the reference information and delivers the characteristic amount.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information delivering means delivers plural pieces of reference information collectively.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information delivering means delivers the related information and/or the reference information in accordance with an HTTP (Hyper Text Transfer Protocol).

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information delivering means delivers the related information and/or the reference information in accordance with an SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol).

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information delivering means designates a character string, which is capable of identifying reference information, in a header of a delivery message at the time of delivery of reference information.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision method that provides related information on contents including reference data arranged in time series, the method comprising:

receiving related information on contents from one or more users, the related information including an identification of the contents, user remarks to the contents, and a reference time position of the user remarks relating to the contents;

storing the received related information on contents;

receiving reference information from one or more users, the reference information including a keyword specifying contents to be referred to by the user remarks to the contents, and specifying a time reference position in the contents;

storing the received reference information;

searching the stored related information for matching related information that matches at least one of the keyword or the time reference position of the reference information from the received reference information;

delivering the matching related information for displaying on a display at a specific user device from among one or more user devices, and delivering at least one of the matching related information or the received reference information to the specific user device;

specifying an installation region of a terminal apparatus of the one or more users to be a delivery destination according to the information delivering step, the installation region indicating a geographic region where the terminal apparatus of the one or more users is installed; and

changing contents of related information and/or reference information, which should be delivered, according to the installation region,

wherein the content referred to in the related information was already distributed or will be distributed to the specific user device.

Claim 14 (Cancelled).

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): A content related information provision method according to claim 13, wherein

the contents refer to a broadcast program, and

the reference information includes information specifying a broadcasting station, which broadcasts or has broadcasted a program, and information specifying a date and time when a reference part in a program is broadcasted or has been broadcasted.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): A content related information provision method according to claim 13, wherein the reference information further includes information for specifying a broadcast starting date and time of the program and information for specifying a broadcast end time of a program or a length of the program.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A computer readable medium having a program recorded thereon written in a computer readable format so as to execute processing to perform a method for providing related information on contents including reference data arranged in time series on a computer system, said method comprising:

receiving related information on contents from one or more users, the related information including an identification of the contents, user remarks to the contents, and a reference time position of the user remarks relating to the contents;

storing the received related information on contents;

receiving reference information from one or more users, the reference information including a keyword specifying contents to be referred to by the user remarks to the contents, and specifying a time reference position in the contents;

storing the received reference information;

searching the stored related information for matching related information that matches at least one of the keyword or the time reference position of the reference information from the received reference information;

delivering the matching related information for displaying on a display at a specific user device from among one or more user devices, and delivering at least one of the matching related information or the received reference information to the specific user device;

specifying an installation region of a terminal apparatus of the one or more users to be a delivery destination according to the information delivering step, the installation region indicating a geographic region where the terminal apparatus of the one or more users is installed; and

changing contents of related information and/or reference information, which should be delivered, according to the installation region,

wherein the content referred to in the related information was already distributed or will be distributed to the specific user device.

Claim 18 (Cancelled).

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): A computer readable medium according to claim 17, wherein

the contents refer to a broadcast program, and
the reference information includes information specifying a broadcasting station, which broadcasts or has broadcasted a program, and information specifying a date and time when a reference part in a program is broadcasted or has been broadcasted.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): A computer readable medium according to claim 17, wherein the reference information further includes information for specifying a broadcast starting date and time of the program and information for specifying a broadcast end time of a program or a length of the program.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system that supports information exchange for contents including reference data arranged in time series, the system comprising:

a related information receiver configured to receive related information from one or more user devices, the related information including an identification of the contents, user remarks to the contents, and a reference time position of the user remarks relating to the contents;

a related information storing unit configured to store the received related information;

a reference information receiver configured to receive reference information from the one or more user devices, the reference information including a keyword specifying contents to be referred to by the user remarks to the contents, and specifying a time reference position in the contents;

a reference information storing unit that stores the received reference information;

an information processing unit configured to search the related information storing unit for matching related information that matches at least one of the keyword or the time reference position of the reference information from the reference information receiver, and transmit the matching related information for displaying on a display at a specific user device from among said one or more user devices, and to transmit at least one of the matching related information or the stored reference information to the one or more user devices;

means that specifies an installation region of a terminal apparatus of the one or more user devices to be a provision destination of information, the installation region indicating a geographic region where the terminal apparatus of the one or more user devices is installed;
and

means that changes contents of reference information according to the specified installation region,

wherein the content referred to in the matching related information was already distributed or will be distributed to the one or more user devices.

Claim 22 (Cancelled).

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 21,
wherein

the contents refer to a broadcast program, and

the reference information includes information specifying a broadcasting station that broadcasts or has broadcasted a program, and information specifying a date and time when a reference part in the program is broadcasted or has been broadcasted.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 23, wherein the reference information specifies a broadcasting station, which broadcasts or has broadcasted a program, using a channel number.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, wherein the information processing unit is further configured to transmit a name of a bulletin board, in which a corresponding remark is written, with the name included in the reference information.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, wherein the information processing unit is further configured to transmit corresponding remark contents with the user remarks included in the reference information.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, wherein the information processing unit is further configured to include identification information of a site handling information resources related to contents in the reference information and delivers the identification information.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, wherein the information processing unit is further configured to include information for

correcting deviation of a clock in a terminal apparatus to be a delivery destination in the reference information and delivers the information.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, wherein the information processing unit is further configured to include a characteristic amount of contents at a reference position in the contents in the reference information and delivers the characteristic amount.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, wherein the information processing unit is further configured to deliver plural pieces of reference information collectively.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, further comprising:

a unit that, in writing of a remark, transmits an execution code for automatically acquiring reference information or urging a user to input a remark to a terminal apparatus side of a requiring source of the one or more user devices.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, further comprising:

a unit that, concerning an execution code for automatically acquiring reference information stored in a terminal apparatus of the requesting source of the one or more user devices in advance or urging a user to input a remark, transmits information necessary for starting the execution code to the terminal apparatus.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, wherein the transmitting means delivers the reference information in accordance with an HTTP (Hyper Text Transfer Protocol).

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, wherein the information processing unit is configured to deliver the reference information in accordance with an SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol).

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, wherein the transmitting means designates a character string, which is capable of identifying the reference information, in a header of a delivery message at the time of delivery of reference information.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 23, further comprising:

a specification unit that, concerning a program series to be an object of an argument in a bulletin board, specifies a broadcast schedule for the next broadcast of the series; and

a unit that transmits the broadcast schedule to a terminal apparatus of a request source of the one or more user devices.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 36, further comprising:

a setting unit that sets a bulletin board for each program series and performs download of the program schedule from a screen displaying information in the bulletin board or a screen displaying a list of the user remarks in the bulletin board.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 23, further comprising:

a specification unit a rebroadcast schedule for a program to be an object of a remark;
and

a unit that transmits the rebroadcast schedule to a terminal apparatus of a request source of the one or more user devices.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 38, wherein the transmitting means transmits the rebroadcast schedule with the rebroadcast schedule included in reference information.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, further comprising:

a designation unit configured to designate retrieval conditions for a remark; and
a retrieving unit configured to retrieve a remark across plural bulletin boards on the basis of the designated retrieval conditions.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 40, wherein the bulletin board system uses a keyword included in a remark or designated separately at the time of writing the remark as retrieval conditions.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 40, wherein the bulletin board system uses a name or an ID of a user who has written the remark as retrieval conditions.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): A bulletin board system according to claim 40, wherein the bulletin board system uses a date and time when the remark is written as retrieval conditions.